

The Times Dispatch

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WEDNESDAY, APRIL 8, 1912.

A PERSONAL QUESTION.

Shall Richmond have a city government by professional politicians? Some people seem to think that it is useless for the citizens to take part in their government by taking an interest in it, because they think that the city is irrevocably possessed by the ward politicians. In other words, such a man takes an impersonal attitude toward the way his city is governed; he does not regard the city as his city or the government as his government.

Such an attitude is as wrong as it is destructive of efficient administration. The citizen should take a personal interest in the way Richmond is governed, because he has personal rights and duties connected with the city. If the city is not governed in his interest, it is his individual fault. The question the voter should ask himself at this time is: "Is this or that candidate for the Common Council or the Administrative Board the kind of man I would intrust my private business to if I had to have some one to run it for me?" A man who is incompetent to transact private business is incompetent to transact public business. A man who would not be selected to discharge private duties and responsibilities cannot be selected to discharge public duties and responsibilities.

Examine the records of all candidates for efficiency and ability. If a man possesses these qualities, he is to be considered; if not, he should be dismissed from consideration. The people of Richmond cannot afford to spend \$25,000 a year on an inefficient Administrative Board. Whether that amount is to be wasted or well spent depends wholly upon the sort of men elected to the board.

CONSCIOUSLY OR UNCONSCIOUSLY, SIGNIFICANT.

In the House of Commons the other day Sir Edward Grey, British Secretary for Foreign Affairs, was asked "whether the British government recognized the Monroe Doctrine as applicable only to the American continent or does it admit that it includes the islands of the West Indian archipelago?" Sir Edward's answer was that the Monroe Doctrine meant anything Washington said it did. He then went on to declare that the British government had no purpose to acquire territory on the American continent or in its neighborhood, and expressed the belief that it was impossible that any question as to the doctrine could arise between Great Britain and the United States.

What prompted the interpellation was not disclosed in terms, but both it and Sir Edward's words are very suggestive. It is difficult not to read into both significant reference to the recent report that Germany was aiming to secure naval stations in striking distance of the Panama Canal, and to the agitation of the question of the possible sale of certain harbors in the Danish West Indies to private interests in such a way as to lead finally to transfer of the islands to another European nation.

Be that as it may, however, Sir Edward's reply was no more than what might have been expected under any circumstances. It was simply in consonance with Great Britain's time-honored position on the Monroe Doctrine, of which at the last one of her own great statesmen, George Canning, was the inspirer. If not, indeed, the actual author. It was a renewal of Canning's pledge, as embraced in his policy toward the Holy Alliance, which was sealed by his recognition of the independence of the South American States that had thrown off the yoke of Spanish domination.

More than that, it was in harmony with the dictates of British interests on this side of the world. Great Britain has all the American territory, insular and continental, that she desires. The work of unifying, pacifying and developing her African and Oriental empires, and of confirming her spheres of influence in Central Asia and the farther East, will tax her resources and demand her attention and labor for long years yet to come. In India especially she is confronted with complex problems, the final solution of which must for generations remain unreach. Her ablest and most far-seeing statesmen concede that she has barely begun the task she has undertaken there, and which is universally admitted, it is her duty to herself, to civilization and to the world's progress to complete at any cost. In her West Indian possessions, however, she faces no problem save that of holding them at the least cost, and preservation of the integrity of the Monroe Doctrine and her continued support of it afford her the surest guaranty in respect of that matter. Her attitude on the doctrine amounts to an unwritten, offensive and defensive alliance with us against the encroach-

ment of any European power upon the Western Hemisphere.

The only question regarding the doctrine that could arise between the United States and Great Britain is in how far and in what steps they would combine and co-operate, should this encroachment be attempted. Whether or not, therefore, it is competent to interpret the incident in the Commons as bearing directly upon the report regarding Germany and the Danish islands agitation we have noted, it carries a warning to Germany and all other European powers that may now or in the future cherish ambition for territorial expansion, either insular or on the mainland, in the Americas.

It is a warning that all such ambition will have to reckon with an Anglo-American coalition, based not only on good faith, but community of interests. Whether it was uttered consciously or unconsciously, designedly or undesignedly, it rests entirely with those whom the cap may fit to decide as to its necessity. If the intent of Sir Edward's interpellation was merely to clear up all doubts as to the British government's conception of the scope of Britain's obligation to this country under the Monroe Doctrine, he was markedly successful. Yet, moreover, he questioned better than he knew, perhaps, considering the reply in the aspect of its possible influence in preventing friction, if not worse, resultant from Continental European temptation to "test" the doctrine.

A CRUEL COMPLIMENT.

Andrew Carnegie has done many beneficent deeds, but when he showered unwelcome notoriety on Miss Virginia Lee by calling her the most beautiful girl he had ever seen, he did her great wrong. Modest and retiring, shrinking from such publicity as any Virginia girl would, she has been driven into seclusion by Carnegie's cruel compliment. A myriad of callers are ever at the door of her home, and her mother and grandmother are kept busy sending them away and burning bushels of unopened letters addressed to her. Hundreds of offers of all sorts have been made to her to pose for the photographers, and to go on the stage, but she has refused them all. She is of modest, though amiable and joyous disposition, but the limelight has brought only trouble and sorrow to her. She is described by one who knows her well as of "angelic countenance, though not as beautiful as reports would indicate." Mr. Carnegie ought to have known that such a compliment from him would grievously disturb Miss Lee's right to privacy and freedom from molestation. By his thoughtlessness he has made her a virtual prisoner in her own home, and he ought to do everything in his power to relieve her of the unpleasant situation in which he has placed her. He would not like to have his daughter pursued by curious crowds, hunted by camera fiends, flooded with annoying mail, and made miserable, simply because she is beautiful. Carnegie talks too much, anyway, and if he cannot shut up, he ought at least to think twice before he starts his scintillating chatter.

MONTICELLO WILLED TO NATION.

According to the statement of Mrs. Martin W. Littleton, of New York, who recently started a movement for the purchase of Monticello, Jefferson's home in Virginia, the estate was once willed to the United States by Commodore Ulrich P. Levy, of the navy, an uncle of the present owner. Mrs. Littleton discovered a summary of this bequest in the reports of the New York Court of Appeals, Vol. 133, page 87. Part of this document reads as follows:

By his will, after other provisions, the testator devised his farm and estate at Monticello, together with the residue of his estate, real and personal, "to the people of the United States, for such persons as Congress shall appoint to receive and carry out for the sole and only purpose of establishing and maintaining, at said farm of Monticello, in Virginia, an agricultural school for the purpose of educating, as practical farmers, children of the poor of the United States, provided they be acts of their Legislature, accept it and carry it out as herein directed." And should the people of Virginia, by the neglect of their representatives, decline to accept the said bequest, then he gave the said farm and estate to the United States, to be used for the purpose of carrying out the above provisions.

This certainly seems to prove that Commodore Levy earnestly desired for the estate to come in some manner into public control. But the executors brought an action to have the will construed, with the result that Monticello passed into private hands instead of into possession of the government. The present various endeavors to have the people own Jefferson's home seem only a carrying out of the former owner's wish, except that now it is intended to make it a great memorial to the statesman and thinker, instead of a site for an agricultural school.

In addition to this movement on the part of Congressmen Littleton's wife to interest patriotic societies and citizens in helping to purchase the grounds, two steps in the same direction have been taken by the present Congress. Senator Martine, of New Jersey, has introduced a resolution providing that a joint committee be appointed to inquire into the possibility of purchasing Monticello, and the estimated cost. In the House, Congressman Flood, of this State, has introduced a bill for the appropriation of \$50,000 for the building of a memorial road from Charlottesville to the present entrance, and for the appropriation of \$50,000 more for the erection of a magnificent gateway on the

grounds. The logical outcome of such a road would be the purchase of the estate itself. It is not consistent that the visitor should come to the gate on a road owned by the whole people and then suddenly feel himself an intruder on private property, with no rights save that courtesy and a sense of public responsibility may have granted.

With regard to the beauty and interest of Monticello, we refer our readers to an article by a resident of the University of Virginia, published in Sunday's Times-Dispatch. In that, some of the artistic charm and historical significance are sketched. Doubtless most Virginians are familiar with these facts. But outside of them probably only a scant number have even heard of the place, much less learned of the architectural and natural beauty to be found there. Yet these acres are as significant to all Americans as are Bunker Hill, Mount Vernon, or Lincoln's birthplace. The creation of a memorial to Jefferson would not only be a fitting tribute to his gifts to the nation, but be a potent means of impressing upon the present generation his services as a statesman and his belief in true democracy. The author of the article mentioned above declares that, "The purchase of the home always has been, and is now, the most reasonable thing to do, in the judgment of all who have ever considered the subject."

We believe this sentiment is universal, and we are glad to learn that it conforms with the intention of Commodore Levy. And we trust that the present interest will take practical form both in the building of the proposed road and the creation of a worthy memorial in Monticello itself.

A WHEE-JEE IN MECKLENBURG.

Do you believe in signs? If you do, then the Democrats will surely elect a President this year, because a whee-jee has appeared to the people of Mecklenburg, according to the Times-Star of that county. That is a good omen. A whee-jee has not been seen there since the great freshet twenty years ago, and that was the year Grover Cleveland swept the country for the Democrats. "Every young person, as well as those who are older, can and should see this curious object, which may not be seen again for many years," advises the Times-Star, "dramatically adding that 'the whee-jee is mostly found in low countries that are damp and wet and is seldom seen in this part of the world.'" This amphibian monster is said to spend the day in the swamps and marshes, rising into the air at night, and remaining practically stationary. "It utters a peculiar cry not unlike its name, and its name must have been derived from this fact," sagely observes our Clarkeville contemporary. "The one now visible appears to be about the size of an ordinary horse or mule, and is said by those who ought to know to be of the blue wing variety with a phosphorescent or luminous tail." It was first noticed after the recent high waters hovering over Rose Hill. It has changed its position a little every night and can be best seen from the county bridge. The Times-Star urges everybody to see "this wonderful object before it leaves this part of the world." No one will regret not being able to go to Clarkeville to see it as much as Colonel Bwana Tumbo Roosevelt, who is now too busy explaining how he has not changed his mind about a third term for the presidency to take a shot at this rare animal-bird. In fact, Colonel Roosevelt has killed a kirkak-dik and a perunatilla, but he has never been able to get good aim on a whee-jee, a kaywhacky or a whimpanper.

September is a good season for whangdoodles in Mecklenburg, and he will have plenty of time then after his crushing downfall to go gunning for them. Mark this prophecy: A Democratic President will be elected, for the appearance of the whee-jee in Mecklenburg has clinched it.

Mr. Wiley makes speeches that are pure food for thought.

The Western Union will now do some wire-pulling for the good of the people.

Does the Supreme Court expect a man to buy a certain kind of cream to go with his patent breakfast food?

Promoters of everglade land deals apparently found plenty of evergreens to buy what they offered.

Motor sledges are not adapted for polar work, because you cannot eat them on the way back.

The Alaska Democrats have elected six delegates to the Baltimore convention. They are bringing sacks of gold nuggets to pay for accommodations in the cold storage vaults of the Baltimore hotels.

A dash after outlaw proceeds with just about the same terrible speed as a dash for the pole.

"Beloved consort" is another stilted phrase which should fall into disuse.

The Countess of Warwick is certainly a new woman. She admits she had to give up a lecture trip because she was too old.

A young man from North Carolina explains his fine crops of tobacco in poor seasons as follows: "I plowed often, and whenever a little shower of rain came I harrowed it in and saved the moisture." This is a clear statement of what scientific farming really means—hard work.

The bloodhounds seem to do better work in "Uncle Tom's Cabin" than they do in the Blue Ridge.

On the Spur of the Moment
By Roy K. Moulton

Tried and True.
When all else fails and thoughts are dim,
When Fate does all that she can do
To disappoint and test your grit,
When nothing goes exactly right
And you are harassed day and night
By ceaseless worry and dull care,
And there's no comfort anywhere,
When friends you've always loved desert
And hand you little slights that hurt;
When disappointment reigns supreme
And rudely shatters every dream,
When you have been misunderstood,
And old-time friends lambaste you
For good,
And nothing seems to be worth while,
Or fit to cause the faintest smile,
There's one friend who will stick to you
No matter what the rest may do,
To comfort you and smooth your brow
And in a manner show you how
The world might be a whole lot worse
And teach you to pass up the harshe.
This friend is speak of many know,
With cheerful air and all aglow,
It's friendship lingers, old and ripe,
It's your good old brier pipe.

Answers to Correspondents.
Constant Reader.—We must positively refuse your request to start a local branch of the Annapolis Club. Perhaps you have no idea just how reaching this organization would be or the difficulty that would be encountered in finding a lodge room with accommodations sufficient for the needs of the order. Almost any other kind of a club we will take pleasure in organizing, but not an Annapolis club—not in this town or in any other.

Perplexed.—You say you are going to a wedding and don't know the proper remark to make when you congratulate the bride and groom. It is always proper to say, "I wish you both many happy returns of the day." This creates a feeling of optimism all around and is much better than the old-fashioned salutation, "May all of your troubles be little ones."

Freedom's Call.
Crespus Binks spent many years behind the prison bars.
He grew most mighty of the brand of prison fare
And wished to get back home, where he could breathe the open air.
Full many thoughts of by-gone days went o'er his mind
And he thought of the olden wide world where he had left behind.
He yearned for freedom constantly all through the night and day,
Until he got his courage up and then he stole away.

"Ah, ha," I'm free at last," he cried as he approached his home.
"Right here I'll stick in quietude and never will roam."
You said he'd been away so long he hadn't heard the news.
His wife had joined the suffragettes and had absorbed their views.
The freedom he had hungered for turned out to be but dress,
The patient wife that once he'd known had an exacting boss.
In dead of night, he slipped away, his heart bowed down in pain,
He hiked back to the same old jail and broke right in again.

Little Household Inefficiencies.
"On the square, Mac, I just about as soon eat toothpaste as I would here shoestring pointers of yours."
"Rupert, I tell you about sixteen times more to stop hanging your nose over the corner of that picture in the parlor and then I'll go home to mother."

Education Needed in Carroll.
To the Editor of The Times-Dispatch:—Sir:—The first wild excitement attendant upon the recent lamentable tragedy in Hillsville is over and the public mind is enabled to view the affair in retrospect with calmer judgment than was possible when the first terrible news that welligh the entire judicial machinery of a court had been almost instantaneously wiped out was given. An amazed and sorrowful people, it may not be amiss to inquire briefly into some of the causes which have gradually culminated in a condition culminating in one of the most atrocious crimes that ever stained the fair name of a civilized Commonwealth.

The Alens, when this deplorable tragedy has brought into such unexampled notoriety, are typical members of that class of people known as the Southern mountaineers, who inhabit the mountainous regions of Virginia, North Carolina, Tennessee and Kentucky, and who, reared among the fastnesses of nature, have been always civilized, but themselves, viewing with suspicion any show of vested authority, whether that authority be exercised by the State or Federal authorities, and who have believed from time immemorial that a man should be at liberty to do whatever he chose with that which belonged to him as the

fruits of his own endeavors or that he had acquired in any manner. This attitude, instilled into the very being of these mountain people by generations of warfare with the civilizing and the doctrine of the rule of law, whether the doctrine be of Federal power in attempt to break up illicit stills or whether they came in the persons of their neighbors wearing the badge of the State, can, we believe, be established to be the result of ignorance of the obligations which one man owes to law and order in the maintenance of a well ordered society.

In the beginning might was right, and each man was a prey to every other, and the doctrine of the survival of the fittest applied with full force. But as people became more numerous and began to live together in towns and otherwise in close proximity to each other as a means of protection against wild beasts and sometimes wilder men, civilized man found it necessary for the safety of the weaker members of the race that each person should surrender, for the common good, some of the individual rights that heretofore had been exercised by each without restraint.

Here began law and order. Certain rules, which have developed into what we call law, were laid down by common consent and a penalty prescribed for their violation. So this giving up of personal rights where they conflicted with the rights of others continued to spread until, where it applied to only a few things in the beginning, in the end it has been applied to man in relation to his fellowman. The legal doctrine that a man can use whatever is his as he chooses was, in time, limited by the doctrine that one cannot use even his own property so as to work injury to his fellowman, whether as an individual or as a State. And right here is the distinction that the Southern mountaineer has failed to grasp; he has clung tenaciously to the first part of this doctrine without accepting the amendment.

As the world advanced and man's nature was softened by education and intimate association with his fellowman, these involuntary outcasts continued to dwell in the rugged fastnesses of their mountain homes, as in the beginning, removed from the softening touch of progress, standing aside as it were and watching the world go by. In this condition they never felt the respect for law and order that was experienced by their more fortunate brothers in the centers of population, and, neglected and shunned because of their warlike proclivities, their minds were never made, by education, to understand the brotherhood of man or the advantages to be derived from a protection by that abstract personality, the law, of which they heard only when they were haled before its bar to answer some violation which their ignorance prevented them from understanding. Thus, they came to regard the law and its officers as their special enemies, deprived of its protection by their lack of understanding and mode of living, and brought before it only as defendants in some criminal prosecution. They looked upon it as their great oppressor, to be fought and conquered, if possible, as they would fight and conquer any wild animal on their native heaths.

These are the causes of these people's utter disregard of lawful authority; the ignorance in education; the isolation of the mountain forests must go emissaries, armed not with pistols, but with words; not with threats and harsh words, but with conciliatory phrases. Do not leave them to themselves until some great crime is committed and then, if possible, as they would fight and conquer any wild animal on their native heaths.

WHICH IS THE SOUND THAT IS MOST TYPICAL OF SPRING?
By John T. McCutcheon.

(Copyright, 1912, by John T. McCutcheon.)



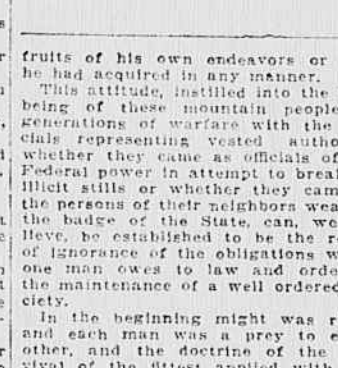
The chirp of birds? The curstain's lazy flap?



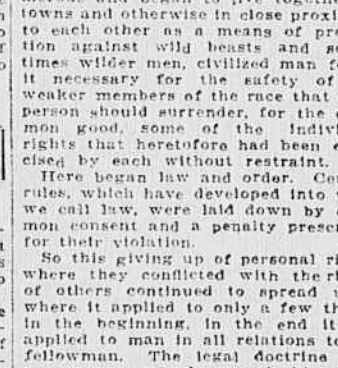
The hummer's sound in rising evidence struck?



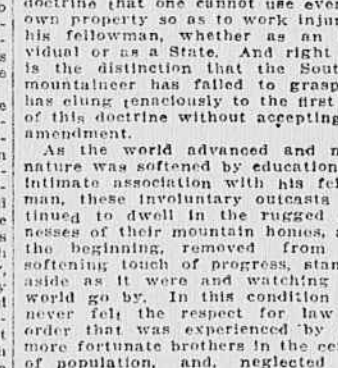
The sound of children's voices shrill and high?



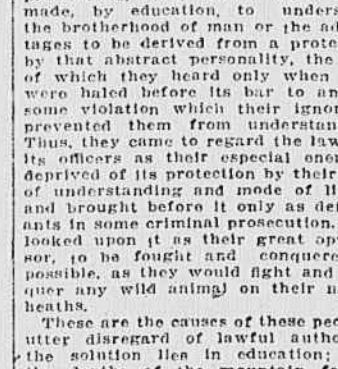
The distant dog that barks but knows not why?



The strident street piano's lively air?



The hum of waking nature everywhere?



The hum of waking nature everywhere?

Which is the sound that is most typical of spring? The chirp of birds? The curstain's lazy flap? The hummer's sound in rising evidence struck? The sound of children's voices shrill and high? The distant dog that barks but knows not why? The strident street piano's lively air? The hum of waking nature everywhere?

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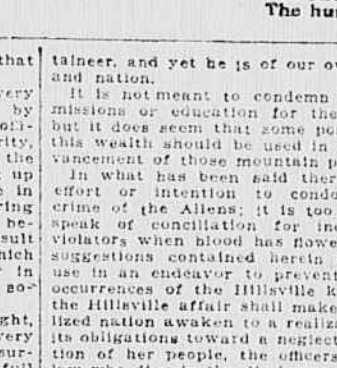
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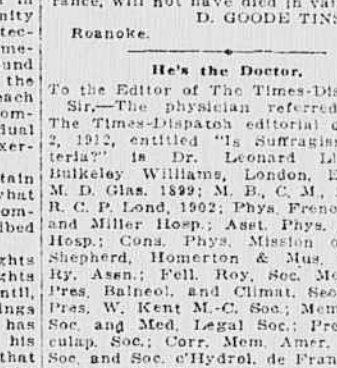
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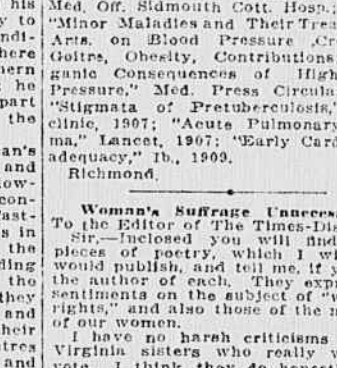
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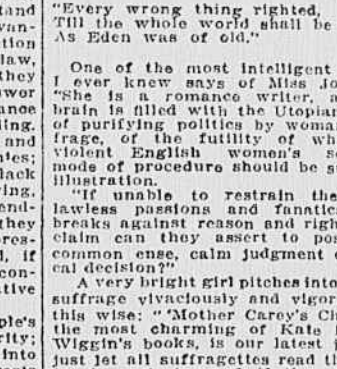
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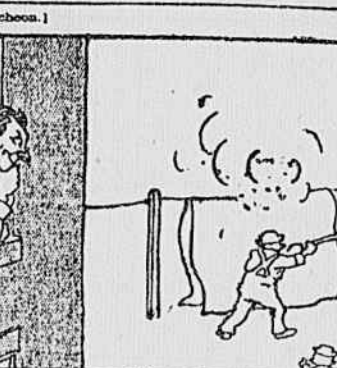


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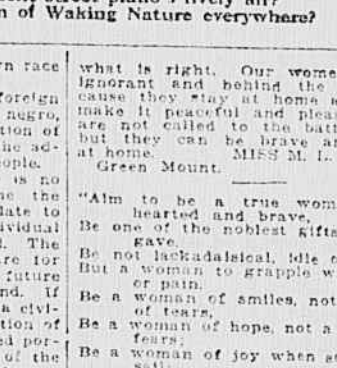
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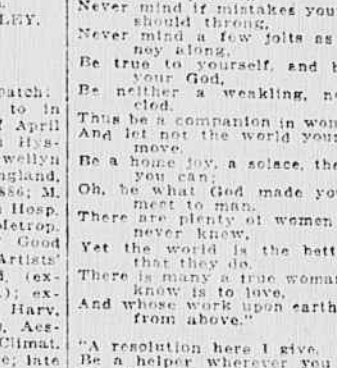
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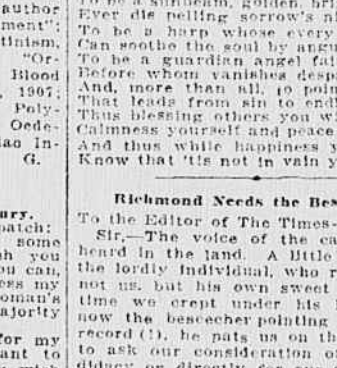
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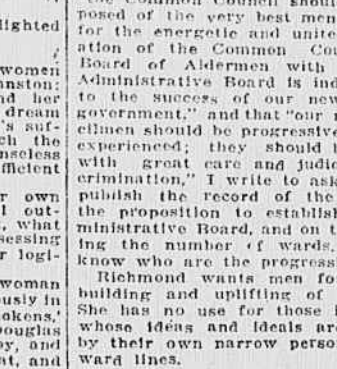
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